before a police officer, powers of court to take cognizance of an offence etc. and specific safeguards have been incorporated under POTO in several instances to contain the misuse of its provisions. Provisions relating to interception of communication in certain cases under the Prevention of Terrorism Ordinance, 2001 are similar to those obtaining in the Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act, 1999.

Ration money/allowance provided to Delhi Police Personnels

1729. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Police provides ration money/allowance to its personnels;

(b) if so, since when and at what rates to each rank, separately;

(c) whether payment of ration money/allowance has been made;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to expedite the payment and by when it is likely to be made to retired Delhi Police personnels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) The Non-Gazetted Police Personnel of Delhi Police have been made entitled to Ration Money Allowance *with effect from* 1st April, 1998. The rate at which this allowance is being paid is based on the formula applicable to the non- gazetted personnel of the Central Para-Military Forces.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) There is no proposal to pay Ration Money Allowance to the police personnel after their retirement.

Action taken to tackle terrorism in the country

1730. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether after October 1, terrorist attack on Jammu and Kashmir Assembly and inspite of PM's letter, USA did not issue any formal statement indicating that the Kashmir terrorist would also be targeted; and

(b) if so, the action taken to tackle terrorism by India on its own?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) President Bush condemned the October 1 st terrorist attack in Kashmir and added that terrorism must end everywhere, and that includes in Kashmir.

(b) Government has adopted a well coordinated and multi-pronged approach for tackling the activities of militants which includes strengthening the border management to check illegal cross-border activities, gearing up the intelligence machinery, close interaction between different agencies of the Centre and the Various State Governments, neutralizing plans of militants and anti-national elements by coordinated action, modernization and upgradation of police and security forces with advanced sophisticated weapons and communication system etc. As a result of coordinated action, several terrorist modules have been neutralized.

Funds are also reimbursed as per norms to the States under the Scheme of reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure, for expenditure incurred by the States for combating terrorist/ militant extremist activities.

Prevention of Terrorism Ordinance, 2001, has been promulgated under which 23 organizations have been listed as Terrorist Organizations.

In the wake of 11 September attacks in USA, the State Governments/Union territories have been advised to strengthen security around the vital installations. Review of VVIP security has been undertaken. Security of airports, aircrafts etc. has been strengthened. The State Governments have been requested to gear up collection in intelligence with regard to sabotage, subversive activities attempts to disturb communal harmony. The State Government/UTs have also been requested to keep contingency plans in readiness to deal with any eventuality.

India has also apprised the international community of Pakistan's sponsorship of and support to terrorism directed against India. There is now widespread international recognition of the need to eradicate terrorism wherever it exists and that there can be no justification for terrorism.

Creation of Indian Reserve Force

1731. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to create a new Indian Reserve Force;